



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

52

| APPLICATION NO.   | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/044,698  | 01/11/2002  | Kenneth L. Davis     | 30566.213-US-01     | 7955             |
| 22462   | 7590        | 04/08/2005           | EXAMINER            |                  |
| GATES & COOPER LLP<br>HOWARD HUGHES CENTER<br>6701 CENTER DRIVE WEST, SUITE 1050<br>LOS ANGELES, CA 90045 |             |                      | ALAM, UZMA          |                  |
|   |             |                      | ART UNIT            | PAPER NUMBER     |
|   |             |                      | 2157                |                  |

DATE MAILED: 04/08/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

|                              |                               |                                   |  |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| <b>Office Action Summary</b> | Application No.<br>10/044,698 | Applicant(s)<br>DAVIS, KENNETH L. |  |
|                              | Examiner<br>Uzma Alam         | Art Unit<br>2157                  |  |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.  
     4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 January 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
     a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### DETAILED ACTION

This action is responsive to the application filed on January 11, 2002. Claims 1-27 are pending. Claims 1-27 represent a distributed revision block service.

#### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 3-10, 12-19, and 21-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jones et al. US Patent No. 6,493,731 in view of Thackston US Patent No. 6,295,513. Jones teaches the invention as claimed including a document management system (see abstract). Thackston teaches the invention as claimed including a virtual collaborative environment for design (see abstract).

As per claim 1, Jones teaches a method for distributing design document changes comprising:

capturing a representation of a revision block of a document, wherein the revision block documents a history of changes to the document (capturing metadata which are stored as resources to track revision and history in a document; column 4, lines 33-45; column 5, lines 11-26; column 6, lines 23-40); and

distributing the representation via a network service (the resources are available on a collaborative network; column 4, lines 33-59).

Art Unit: 2157

Jones does not teach a design document. Thackston teaches a design document. See column 8, lines 45-60. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the document of Jones with the design document of Thackston. A person of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because Jones supports the execution of a work process operating in a collective working environment of any business (column 4, lines 38-45).

As per claim 3, Jones teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the revision block comprises a table of various document properties (column 6, lines 56-67; column 7, lines 1-4). Jones does not teach a design document. Thackston teaches a design document. See column 8, lines 45-60. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the document of Jones with the design document of Thackston. A person of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because Jones supports the execution of a work process operating in a collective working environment of any business (column 4, lines 38-45).

As per claim 4, Jones teaches the method of claim 3, wherein the document properties are customized to meet documentation needs of an organization (column 4, lines 60-67; column 5, lines 1-10; column 7, lines 14-21). Jones does not teach a design document. Thackston teaches a design document. See column 8, lines 45-60. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the document of Jones with the design document of Thackston. A person of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because Jones supports the

Art Unit: 2157

execution of a work process operating in a collective working environment of any business (column 4, lines 38-45).

As per claim 5, Jones teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the representation is automatically captured (the resources are recorded as metadata; column 5, lines 1-26; column 7, lines 14-22).

As per claim 6, Jones teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the representation is captured transparently to a user (column 5, lines 11-26; column 7, lines 14-38). Jones does not teach a designer. Thackston teaches a designer. See column 8, lines 45-60. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the client or user of Jones with the designer of Thackston. A person of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because Jones supports the execution of a work process operating in a collective working environment by any client or user (column 4, lines 38-45).

As per claim 7, Jones teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the representation is distributed to a consumer of the document such that the consumer is notified of changes in the document without having to refer to the document directly (the user can review the document in context of the resource documents; column 5, lines 1-56; column 6, lines 1-21). Jones does not teach a design document. Thackston teaches a design document. See column 8, lines 45-60. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the document of Jones with the design

Art Unit: 2157

document of Thackston. A person of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because Jones supports the execution of a work process operating in a collective working environment of any business (column 4, lines 38-45).

As per claim 8, Jones teaches the method of claim 1, further comprising:

updating the representation as additional revisions are added to the revision block (the resources are updated; column 4, lines 46-60; column 12, lines 56-67; column 9, lines 31-67) and

redistributing the representation (the resources are stored on the distributed network environment; column 4, lines 46-60).

As per claim 9, Jones teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the distributing comprises transmitting the representation to the network service via a network, wherein the network service transmits the representation:

to a web site used to track revisions for a project (column 11, lines 40-67; column 5, lines 56-67; column 6, lines 1-21);

to a database used for document management (column 5, lines 56-67; column 6, lines 1-21; column 11, lines 40-59); and

in an email to a design document consumer (column 11, lines 54-67; column 12, lines 1-7).

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jones et al. US Patent No. 6,493,731 in view of Thackston US Patent No. 6,295,513 as applied to

Art Unit: 2157

claims 1, 3-10, 12-19, and 21-27 above, and further in view of Serbinis et al. US Patent No. 6,584,466. Serbinis teaches the invention as claimed including internet document management system (see abstract).

Jones and Thackston teach the method of claim 1, wherein the representation is an metadata representation (the metadata is stored in the document or outside the document, the metadata is information about the document; column 5, lines 20-26; column 6, lines 22-41). Jones and Thackston do not teach a XML representation. Serbinis teaches an XML representation. See column 15, lines 45-67; column 16, lines 1-10. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the metadata of Jones and Thackston with the XML of Serbinis. A person of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this to use representations on web applications.

Claims 10-18 and 19-27 are rejected under the same rationale as claims 1-9 because they have the same limitations as claims 1-9.

### ***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Hanson US Patent No. 6,507,865

Cronin et al. US Patent No. 6,772,396

Art Unit: 2157

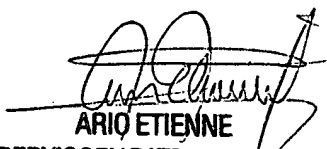
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Uzma Alam whose telephone number is (571) 272-3995.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Tuesday 11:30am-8pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on (571) 272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Uzma alam  
Ua

  
ARIO ETIENNE  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100